

recommended downtown Madison restaurants

1 The Sett | Union South

Food, live music, bowling and rock climbing. Burgers, fries, cheese curds, beer, etc.

2 Harvest Grains | Union South

Made-to-order flatbread sandwiches, soups and salads, and many vegetarian options.

3 Ginger Root | Union South

Asian stir-fries.

4 Urban Slice | Union South

New York style slices of pizza, gluten-free option. Italian-inspired dishes like calzones, pastas and salads.

5 Daily Scoop | Union South

UW's very own Babcock Dairy ice cream! Try UW's custom flavors, like Union Utopia or Badger Blast.

6 Food Carts | Geology

Thai's Cuisine
In-N-Out Empanada
Blowin' Smoke BBQ's
Fortune Cafe: Indonesian food, with a foray into Italian

7 Mickie's Dairy Bar | 1511 Monroe St

Known for its giant pancakes!

8 New Orleans Take Out | 1517 Monroe St

Southern classics likes jambalaya and shrimp creole.

9 Pizza Brutta | 1805 Monroe St

Wood-fired pizza, Italian salads and sandwiches.

10 Brasserie V | 1923 Monroe St

French food paired with Belgian beer and noble wines. Signature menu items include Frites, Cheeseboards, and the Brasserie V Belgian salad.

11 Food Carts | Library Mall (bottom of State St)

Buraka: East African food
Jamerica: Jerk chicken, jerk pork
Zen Sushi: Good inexpensive sushi
Santa Fe Trailer: Mexican food
Kakilima Indonesian: Chicken kebab with peanut sauce
The Fruit Stand: Fruit (some organic) & delicious smoothies
Hours vary depending on stand.

12 Dotty Dumpling's Dowry | 317 N Francis St

Huge burgers, yummy homemade soups, malts and root beer floats.

13 Mediterranean Café | 625 State St

Mediterranean classics. Delicious hummus, stuffed peppers, spanakopita.

14 Kabul | 541 State St

Afghan-Mediterranean. Great lemon chicken or pita sandwiches, lamb, chicken, beef and seafood kabobs.

15 Sunroom Café | 638 State St

Upstairs cafe serving well-made sandwiches, salads, soups and pastries. Full dinner menu of fresh pasta and ethnic dishes.

16 Husnu's | 547 State St

Turkish and Mediterranean. Husnu's offers something to delight any palate from conservative beef lover to vegetarian purist.

17 Buraka | 543 State St

African cuisine served with rice or injera, a soft bread that is used to scoop up the food for those who are willing to forego knives and forks.

18 Himal Chuli | 318 State St | 251-9225

Nepalese cuisine. Marinated green jackfruit is one of the many exotic tastes to try. Destination for many vegetarians.

19 Chautara | 334 State St

Himalayan, Nepalese food, and some Indian dishes.

20 Takara | 315 State St

A sushi bar and Japanese restaurant.

21 Nick's | 226 State St

Restaurant interior dating back to the post-WWII era. Old-time sandwiches, including roast beef, BLT, Reubens, tuna melts, turkey clubs, various burgers and salads, along with Greek specialties.

22 Fresco | 227 State St (in the Overture Center)

American contemporary cuisine. Word is: try the gnocchi. Also check out the seared scallops, and sugar-crusting pear dessert.

23 Ian's Pizza | 100 State St or 319 N Frances

Slices with inventive toppings like mac'n cheese & steak dinner, on a textbook-perfect crust. Mixed salad as a side.

24 The Icon | 206 State St

Tapas spot on upper State Street with 55 dish-Spanish menu. Plus a regular dinner menu, with a good roasted chicken and braised short ribs.

25 Samba Brazilian Grill & Cabana Room | 240 W Gilman St

Salad bar with grilled vegetables and salads, and 10-12 kinds of meat served tableside.

26 Dayton Street Cafe (in the Madison Concourse Hotel) | 1 W Dayton St

Contemporary American cuisine with global influences. Lunch specialties: broiled salmon over soba noodles with wasabi and teriyaki lime sauces, chicken pot pie and meatloaf.

27 The Old Fashioned | 23 N Pinckney

Wurst plates, mac'n cheese and classic burgers, plus --obviously-- a Friday fish fry with choice of cod, perch or walleye, with perch the favorite. Accompanied by an excellent cole slaw and slender, crispy fries.

28 Sunprint on the Square | 1 S Pinckney St

Breads, pastries, desserts. The menu designates lowcarb, vegan, and heart-healthy items. Hot/cold sandwiches, roll-ups, and burgers, chicken, fish and turkey from the grill.

29 Great Dane Pub & Brewing Co | 123 E Doty St

Award winning beer. "Pub favorites" include brats and mashers, fish and chips, chicken pot pie, a three-cheese veggie pie, blue corn tortillas stuffed with chicken in a tomatillo-poblano sauce, and a burrito filled with seasonable vegetables.

30 Marigold Kitchen | 118 S Pinckney St

Colorful, noisy and cheerful atmosphere. Must tries: Marigold's chutney chicken salad with tomato, aged Cheddar, marinated cucumbers on a bun, or the Asian marinated grilled Mahi, or the smoked turkey on brioche with cranberry mustard, brie, field greens, arugula pesto and toasted almonds.

31 Brocach | 7 W Main St or 1843 Monroe St

Madison's authentic Irish pub. Specialties include fish and chips, shepherd's pie, Guinness Irish stew, bangers and mash, and the "Big Irish Breakfast of Champions."

32 Natt Spil | 211 King St

New dishes every week, but you might find thin-crust pizza, a must-eat pork sandwich, or an exceptional hoagie.

33 Johnny Delmonico's | 130 S Pickney St

New York-style steak house with a '30s club feel. Seafood's great, too.

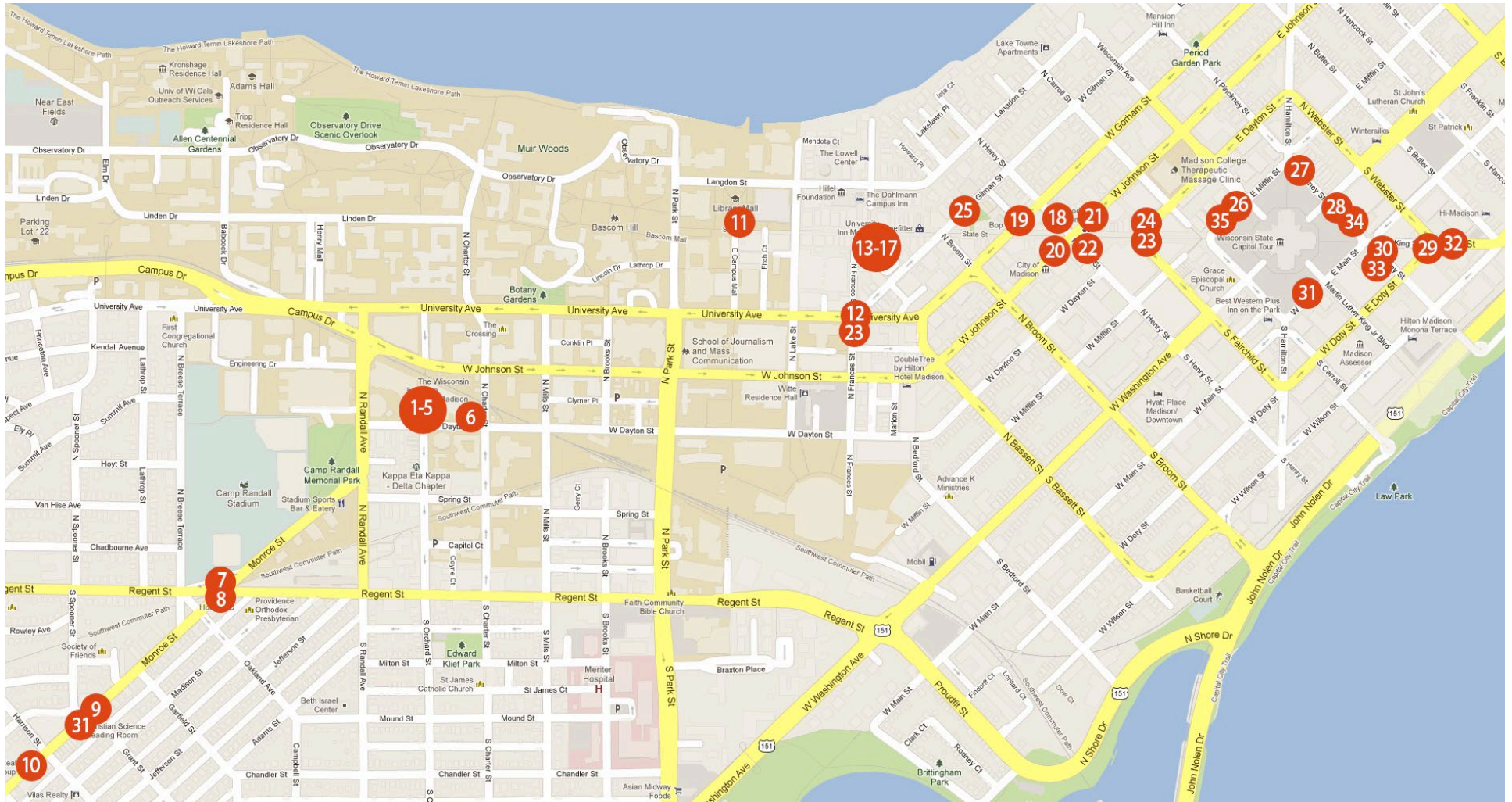
34 Graze | 1 S Pickney St

Eclectic menus that source most all of its ingredients from small farms in the Madison region.

35 Coopers Tavern | 20 W Mifflin St

Serves craft beer and rustic food in a relaxed atmosphere. Features an outstanding selection of beer & wine from around the world.

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